

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 NEW DE 05659 291131Z

46

ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 OMB-01 AID-20 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07

H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01

SP-03 SS-20 USIA-15 CU-04 PC-04 DRC-01 /117 W

----- 097249

R 290910Z APR 74

FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1137

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE NEW DELHI 5659

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, IN

SUBJECT: THE ORGANIZATION: CONGRESS' BROKEN WING

1. THE RULING CONGRESS' ORGANIZATION IS THE PARTY'S BROKEN WING. THE PRIME MINISTER HAS SUBORDINATED IT TO THE MINISTERIAL WING, USED IT TO UNDERMINE POTENTIAL RIVALS, OR MOST FREQUENTLY, IGNORED IT. THIS CAN BE TRACED FROM HER USE IN 1969 OF THE PARLIAMENTARY PARTY TO GAIN CONTROL OF THE CONGRESS AT THE EXPENSE OF HER OPPONENTS WHO WERE ENTRENCHED IN THE PARTY ORGANIZATION. GENERALLY DOMINATED BY REPRESENTATIVES OF TRADITIONAL CAST AND ECONOMIC INTEREST GROUPS, WITH A FEW "PROGRESSIVES" NEAR THE TOP, THE NATIONAL ORGANIZATION AND ITS DEPARTMENTS AND FRONTS EXIST PRIMARILY ON PAPER. IN THE STATES, CHIEF MINISTERS, FOLLOWING THE PRIME MINISTER'S EXAMPLE, HAVE ALLOWED OR ENCOURAGED THE WEAKENING OF THE STATE UNITS.

2. THE PARTY PRESIDENT, THE CONGRESS WORKING COMMITTEE, THE GENERAL SECRETARIES, THE ALL- INDIA CONGRESS COMMITTEE, ALL OF WHICH ONCE COMMANDED RESPECT BECAUSE OF THEIR EFFECTIVENESS, HAVE LOST BOTH ATTRIBUTES. OF THE ANCILLARY ORGANIZATIONS, ONLY THE YOUTH CONGRESS SHOWS A FEW SIGNS OF LIFE. ALTHOUGH THE CONGRESS CLAIMS TEN MILLION MEMBERS, MOST OF THAT MEMBERSHIP IS "BOGUS".

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 NEW DE 05659 291131Z

3. THE ORGANIZATION, HAVING YIELDED OR LOST ITS LEGITIMATE

AUTHORITY TO THE PRIME MINISTER, IS UNABLE AND UNWILLING TO DISCHARGE FUNCTIONS SUCH AS HELPING FORMULATE POLICY, AIDING OR PRODDING THE BUREAUCRACY IN IMPLEMENTING PARTY-APPROVED REFORMS, PUBLICIZING CONGRESS ACCOMPLISHMENTS, AND CHANNELLING DIVERGENT AND LOCAL VIEWS UPWARD. IT EXISTS AS ONE VENUE FOR FACTIONAL FIGHTS PRIMARILY AMONG THOSE HOPING FOR CONGRESS TICKETS OR MINISTERIAL POSTS. THIS IS NOT A NEW DEVELOPMENT--

THERE HAS BEEN A TREND IN THIS DIRECTION SINCE INDEPENDENCE; BUT IT HAS BEEN ACCELERATED UNDER PRIME MINISTER GANDHI.

4. BY LEAVING THE ORGANIZATION ONLY A MINIMAL AND NEGATIVE ROLE, THE PRIME MINISTER HAS VITIATED ONE OF THE FEW NATIONAL INSTITUTIONS WHICH AT LEAST POTENTIALLY COULD HAVE HELPED HER REALIZE THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL GOALS SHE HAS ESPOUSED. TOO WEAK TO THREATEN HER, IT CANNOT HELP HER EITHER.

5. THIS GENERAL SUBJECT IS DISCUSSED AT LENGTH IN NEW DELHI'S A-153 BEING POUCHED MAY 3.
MOYNIHAN

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: CENTRAL LEGISLATURE, LEGISLATIVE RELATIONS, ORGANIZATION & MANAGEMENT
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 29 APR 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974NEWDE05659
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740101-0519
From: NEW DELHI
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t1974046/aaaaaewh.tel
Line Count: 81
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GolinoFR
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 15 AUG 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <15-Aug-2002 by WorrelSW>; APPROVED <05 MAR 2003 by GolinoFR>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: THE ORGANIZATION: CONGRESS' BROKEN WING
TAGS: PINT, IN
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005